India's export trade *viz-a-viz* Asian countries

733. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND IN DUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has made a comparative study of India's export potential *viz-a-viz* neighbouring Asian countries like China;

(b) if so, what is the share of India in export trade *viz-a-viz* neighbouring Asian countries like China; and

(c) what are the prospects for capturing increased share in merchandise trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir. However, the recent trends in India's merchandise trade with Asia are highlighted in the RBI's Annual Report for 2005-06 in the context of the emergence of Asian countries as an important destination for India's exports.

(b) According to the International Trade Statistics of the WTO, India's share in world exports during the calendar year 2005 was 0.9% compared with 7.3% for China.

(c) India's share in world trade (exports plus imports) has been rising, consistently in recent years from 0.8% in 2003 to 1.1% in 2005 indicating the country's growing prospects in world merchandise trade.

Review of SEZs

734. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Act envisages many Special Economic Zones in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such Zones, State-wise, as on date;

(c) whether there is any proposal to review the processing and non-processing area, protection of workers' rights, regulation of land use within the.area, tax and other concessions and total number of SEZs, irrespective of its class and size;